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2012'S GANGNAM POP STORIES

A CHEAT AND A READ, A SPLIT AND A HIT, METRO LOOKS AT THE YEAR'S BIG ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

PAGE 11

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Winnipeg welcomes New Year's baby Hudson

It's a boy. Baby third in his family to be born New Year's Day

 SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

The race to become the first baby born in Winnipeg in 2013 was tight, but Hudson Girardin took the title by a cute little button nose.

Weighing in at seven-and-a-half pounds, baby Hudson was born by C-section to proud parents Matthew and Desiree Hudson at St. Boniface Hos-

pital at 12:40 a.m. Tuesday — just a minute before the city's second baby of 2013 was born just down the hall.

"(The other mother) was pushing while he was getting pulled out," said Desiree, 27, who looked happy and healthy while introducing her sleepy new son to media

Tuesday afternoon. "He was the New Year's baby by one minute."

The Girardins, who live in Winnipeg and have been married for two years, were getting ready to spend a quiet New Year's Eve at home with their 16-month-old son Dallas, when Desiree's water broke

around 5:15 p.m. Monday.

Amazingly, Hudson is not the first member of his family born on New Year's Day — he shares the birthday with both his grandfather and his aunt.

The young parents said having Winnipeg's first baby of 2013 has been quite an experience — they got a basket

full of gifts from the hospital and had to field questions from reporters within hours of the delivery. The birth came as quite a surprise because Hudson wasn't due until days after New Year's Eve.

"We weren't expecting it so (it's) definitely a shock," said Desiree.



Desiree Girardin holds her new son Hudson — Winnipeg's first 2013 baby — while her husband Matthew holds the couple's first-born son Dallas, who turned 16 months old on his little brother's birthday. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Fatal African stampede

Stampede after fireworks display in Ivory Coast leaves 61 dead, more than 200 injured PAGE 12

A trip fit for a hobbit

Tolkien fans willing to go to the ends of the earth can get a glimpse of Middle-earth through select New Zealand sites PAGE 12



Winnipeg's Mayor Katz not offended by 'fodder' of 2012

Year-end reflection.

Politician says he will 'certainly' complete this term in 2014; believes in term limits



BERNICE PONTANILLA

bernice.pontanilla@metronews.ca

The closer Mayor Sam Katz gets to the next municipal election, the more he knows the political game will heat up — regardless of whether he decides to run again.

"There's games that get played in politics, there's no secret about that, and keep in mind as soon as you get within two years of an election, there's also strategies by other people who are thinking of running, or organizations," he said during a year-end interview with Metro.

As he reflects on 2012, Katz said he's ecstatic to see the progress in Winnipeg, highlighting the new police stations, fire paramedic buildings, bridges, as well as the opening of IKEA.

However, this year has been anything but smooth for municipalities in Canada,

Getting things done

"When I was first elected, the two most-often asked questions: when are you bringing back the Jets? ... and then when is IKEA coming here? And they're both done. And that shows the type of confidence that people have in our city."

Mayor Sam Katz

with scandals in Montreal, Toronto, and other towns and cities.

Katz, who is facing a conflict of interest lawsuit alleging nearly \$3,000 of taxpayer money was spent on a Christmas party for City of Winnipeg staff at Hu's Asian Bistro, while he still owned it, said what's happened in other cities has "no relation whatsoever" to Winnipeg.

Also on tap for 2013 is an audit on how the City of Winnipeg, including chief administrative officer Phil Sheegl, conducts land transactions.

Katz's close relationship with Sheegl was the subject of criticism, especially when



Mayor Sam Katz, who will complete his term in 2014, said he's proud of the progress he has seen in Winnipeg over the past year. MEG CRANE/FOR METRO

reports were made public that Katz bought a dormant company based in Phoenix, Ariz., for \$1 from Sheegl.

"The unfortunate part is that when these things happen, they are great fodder for media and they're sensationalizing headlines, etc., etc.,

and I understand that, but it's sad when an innuendo or a false accusation gets that kind of coverage," he said.

Asked if he can see his life beyond politics, Katz said he'd "never seen his life in politics" but chose to run as a way to give back to the com-

munity that gave him and his parents, Holocaust survivors, a better life.

"I've been elected three times, I certainly will complete this term," he said, adding he also believes in term limits and feels 12 years is enough.

Premier to face budget, hydro issues in new year



Premier Greg Selinger will have a tough time convincing Manitobans they need to spend \$20 billion on Manitoba Hydro projects. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger will face at least two major challenges in 2013 — addressing a growing deficit, and convincing Manitobans that now is the time to build \$20 billion in hydro projects.

Both issues have been exacerbated by the global economic downturn. Revenues are not keeping up with spending increases, due in part to a drop in exports and flat transfer payments from the federal government. The soft economy in the United States has also reduced the price Crown-owned Manitoba Hydro can get on the com-

Power play

In the midst of the economic uncertainty, Manitoba Hydro is embarking on an ambitious plan to build two new generating stations — Keeyask and Conawapa — on rivers in the north, along with a new transmission line to bring the power south.

modity market south of the border.

Recently, Selinger said balancing the budget would

take an extra two years. Earlier this month, the province announced its deficit for the fiscal year that ends in March is set to jump by \$107 million to \$567 million.

Selinger is not ruling out further tax increases.

"We have not taken anything off the table," he said in a recent interview. "We're not ruling anything out. But we do have an overall objective of keeping Manitoba an affordable place to live and then narrowing that gap between revenue and expenditure to come back into balance." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Last homicide of 2012

Stabbing victim dies in hospital

A woman stabbed in early December has become the city's last reported homicide victim of 2012. Samantha Cherish Anderson, 24, was taken to hospital after being found stabbed in the 400 block of Boyd Avenue early Dec. 2. She has since succumbed to her injuries. METRO

Police seeking info

Beating victim linked to drugs

Police now say the man beat to death at his St. Boniface home last month was involved with drugs. Orland Joseph Adams, 49, was found beaten at his home in the 500 block of St. Catherine Street on Dec. 14 and later died in hospital. Police believe Adams knew his attacker. METRO

Idle No More

Demonstration stops traffic

Winnipeg's busiest intersection was blocked for a short time Monday afternoon as hundreds of Idle No More demonstrators gathered to protest the Conservative Government's latest omnibus budget bill. Protestors performed a traditional round dance at the street corner. METRO

Racist remarks

Too late for Tory leader's apology on Facebook comment, chief says

The chief of Brokenhead Ojibway Nation no longer expects Manitoba's top Tory to say sorry for the admittedly racist Facebook comments of the party's

former youth president.

"A forced apology at this stage is meaningless," said Chief Jim Bear.

Bear had been asking Progressive Conservative leader Brian Pallister to apologize after Braydon Maizurkiewich wrote that Winnipeg's Kapyong Barracks was "built for hardworking men and women of the military, not freeloading Indians" on his Facebook page. METRO/WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Age test to decide if suspected rapist can face murder charge

India. Prosecutors seek death penalty for five other suspects held in gang-rape and murder

A bone test is being conducted to confirm the age of a young suspect in custody in the fatal assault and gang-rape of a woman on a bus in India's capital, while prosecutors will seek the death penalty for five other men arrested with him, police said Tuesday.

The six will be formally charged Thursday on accusations that they kidnapped, gang-raped and murdered the 23-year-old woman in New Delhi on Dec. 16, a police spokesman said.

Outraged Indians have been demanding the death penalty for the six men, holding demonstrations almost every day. Murder is punishable by death and rape by life imprisonment. But those

Too often ignored

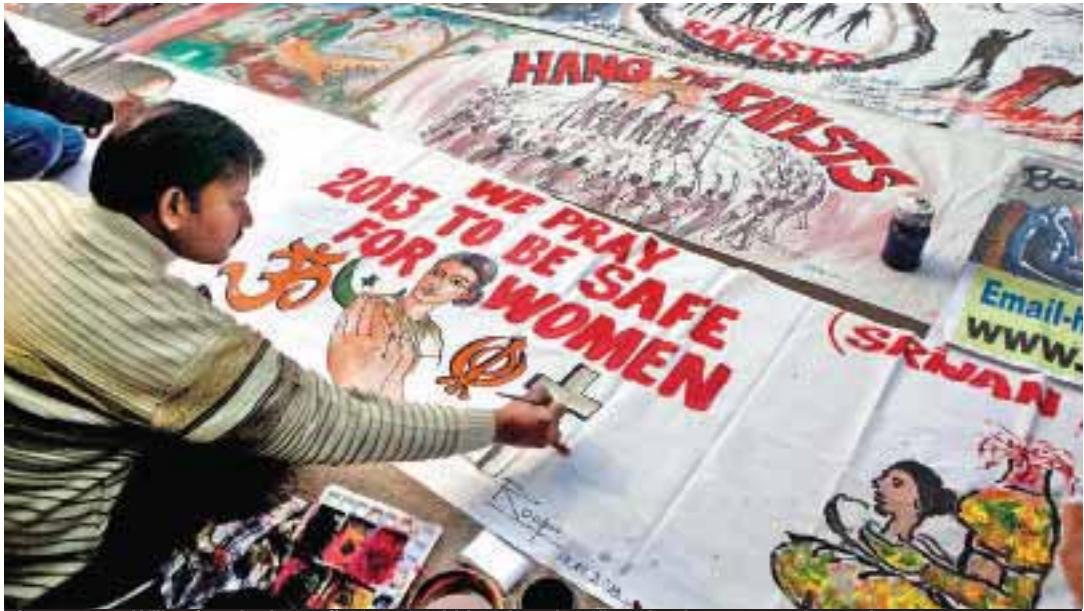
Activists hope the assault will shatter taboos and make authorities take such cases more seriously.

- Police often refuse to hear complaints and even accuse victims of inviting male attention.
- Families also dissuade victims from coming forward in the belief that it will ruin their reputations.

below 18 years of age cannot be prosecuted for murder.

Another officer said a bone test is being conducted to determine if one suspect is indeed a juvenile. If the test determines he is 18 years or older he will be treated as an adult, said the officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The gang-rape and killing of a student has set off an impassioned debate about what India needs to do to prevent another tragedy. DAR YASIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police ID some victims in B.C.-bound bus crash



The crash site near Deadman Pass. OREGON STATE POLICE HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Investigators in Oregon are trying to piece together the final moments before a Vancouver-bound tour bus carrying 48 people careened down a steep hillside, ejecting some passengers and killing nine.

Police said Monday they weren't sure how fast the bus was travelling on a partly icy highway in a rural mountain pass east of Pendleton, Ore.

Oregon State Police identified one of the victims as a 57-year-old Washington man. Authorities said Dale William Osborn was killed in Sunday's crash and his wife Sue Osborn remained hospitalized.

His daughter, Jennifer Sherman, said she was told her father was hit in the head

by a rock while her mother was thrown into a river bed.

A list of injured released by police named seven Canadian residents, including the driver, identified as 54-year-old Haeng Kyu Hwang of Vancouver.

State Police Lt. Gregg Hastings said it could take a month or more to determine whether the driver will face any charges.

Police said they were working with the Korean Consulate to identify other victims. They confirmed 39 people were transported for treatment of injuries and at least 14 of them remained in hospital.

The bus was travelling

westbound in the left lane when it hit a concrete barrier, veered across both westbound lanes and went through the guardrail before plunging about 60 metres down the embankment, Hastings said. The National Transportation Safety Board said the bus rolled at least once.

When the tour bus came to a rest, terrified passengers looked for their loved ones. "Some mothers screamed to find their son or daughter," said Jaemin Seo, a 23-year-old Korean student studying in Vancouver.

Seo said he was awakened by screaming and was ejected from a broken window as the bus careened down the hill. He suffered a broken ankle and a gash in his arm.

The crash occurred near a spot called Deadman Pass, at the top of a steep, 11-kilometre descent from the Blue Mountains.

Rescuers faced the challenge of bringing survivors up a steep cliff, Pendleton Fire Chief Gary Woodson said. They descended the hill and used ropes and baskets to help retrieve people from the wreckage in freezing weather.

Some survivors were carried on backboards by six or eight rescuers. Others were hoisted in baskets, and an all-terrain vehicle arrived toward the end. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Aid workers gunned down in van shooting

Pakistan. Islamic militants oppose anti-polio vaccine, alleging it's intended to sterilize Muslim kids

Gunmen on motorcycles sprayed a van carrying employees from a community centre with bullets Tuesday, killing five female teachers and two aid workers, but sparing a child they took out of the vehicle before opening fire.

The director of the group that the seven worked for says he suspects it may have been the latest in a series of attacks targeting anti-polio efforts in Pakistan. Some militants oppose the vaccination campaigns, accusing health workers of acting as spies for the U.S. and alleging the vaccine is intended to make Muslim children sterile.

Last month, nine people working on an anti-polio



A Pakistani driver who survived an attack on a van that was targeted by gunmen in Swabi lies at the Lady Reading Hospital after being admitted for treatment, Tuesday, in Peshawar, Pakistan. Gunmen killed five female teachers and two other people in the ambush. MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

vaccination campaign were shot and killed. Four of those shootings were in the northwest where Tuesday's attack took place. The attack was another reminder of the risks to women

educators and aid workers from Islamic militants who oppose their work. It was in the same conservative province where militants shot and seriously wounded 15-year-old Malala You-

sufzai, an outspoken young activist for girls' education, in October.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the latest shootings.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Northern West Bank. Israeli undercover raid sets off hours of violence

An arrest raid by undercover Israeli soldiers disguised as vegetable vendors ignited rare clashes in the northern West Bank on Tuesday, residents said, leaving at least eight Palestinians wounded.

Israeli army raids into Palestinian areas to seize activists and militants are fairly common. The raids are normally co-ordinated with Palestinian security forces, and suspects are usually apprehended without violence.

The clashes began early Tuesday after Israeli forces disguised as merchants in a vegetable truck arrested one man. Regular army forces then entered the town, prompting youths to hurl rocks to try to prevent more arrests.

Israeli forces fired tear gas, rubber bullets and live ammunition as youths set tires and bins on fire to block the passage of military vehicles. In several hours of clashes, dozens of masked youths hid behind makeshift barriers, hurling rocks and firebombs at soldiers.

Faris Bisharat, a resident of Tamoun, said 10 men were



Palestinians react to tear gas shot by Israeli soldiers on Tuesday.
NASSER ISHTAYEH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

wounded, some by live fire. Bisharat said the wanted men belong to Islamic Jihad, a violent group sworn to Israel's destruction. It wasn't clear how many men Israeli forces sought to arrest. There were no immediate details on how seriously the eight were hurt.

The Israeli military said it arrested a "terrorist affiliated with the Islamic Jihad terror group." It said two soldiers were injured during the raid.

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Polo Park

Stampede after fireworks kills 61

New Year's tragedy.

Most of those killed in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, were children and teens

A crowd stampeded after leaving a New Year's Eve fireworks show early Tuesday in Ivory Coast's main city, killing 61 people — many of them children and teenagers — and injuring more than 200, rescue workers said.

Thousands had gathered at the Felix Houphouet Boigny Stadium in Abidjan's Plateau district to see the fireworks. It was only the second New Year's Eve fireworks display since peace returned to this West

African nation after a bloody upheaval over presidential elections put the nation on the brink of civil war and turned this city into a battle zone.

With 2013 showing greater promise, people were in the mood to celebrate on New Year's Eve. Families brought children and they watched the rockets burst in the nighttime sky. But only an hour into the new year, as the crowds poured onto the Boulevard de la République after the show, something caused a stampede, said Col. Issa Sako of the fire department rescue team. How so many deaths occurred on the broad boulevard and how the tragedy started is likely to be the subject of an investigation.

Many of the younger ones

Missing children

"I have just seen all the bodies, but I cannot find my son ... I don't know what to do."

Mamadou Sanogo, who was searching for his nine-year-old son, Sayed, at the morgue

in the crowd went down, trampled underfoot. Most of those killed were between 8 and 15 years old.

"The flood of people leaving the stadium became a stampede which led to the deaths of more than 60 and injured more than 200," Sako told Ivory Coast state TV.

Desperate parents went to the city morgue, the hospital

and the stadium to try to find missing children.

State TV showed a woman sobbing in the back of an ambulance; another was bent over on the side of the street, apparently in pain; and another, barely conscious and wearing only a bra on her upper body, was hoisted by rescuers. There were also scenes of small children being treated in a hospital. One boy grimaced in pain and a girl with coloured braids in her hair lay under a blanket with one hand bandaged. The death toll could rise, officials said.

The government organized the fireworks to celebrate Ivory Coast's peace, after several months of political violence in early 2011 following disputed elections. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



An Ivory Coast soldier stands next to the belongings of people involved in a deadly stampede in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. At least 61 people were killed following a New Year's Eve fireworks display. **EMANUEL EKRA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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Executive pay. Top CEOs in Canada earn average of \$7.7M, research shows

By the end of the lunch hour on Jan. 2, the highest paid chief executive officers in Canada will have earned as much as the average Canadian makes all year, a new survey of CEO pay shows.

The top 100 CEOs in Canada earned \$7.7 million on average in 2011, the latest data collected by an Ottawa-based think tank found. In comparison, the average industrial wage was \$45,488, the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives notes.

This is the seventh year the policy group has prepared a database of executive pay based on publicly available documents. It began doing so to help focus public debate on the growing gap between rich and poor, said Hugh Mackenzie, an economist and research associate with the think tank.

"If you make it concrete — here's a group of 100 people and their available income is \$7.7 million — that's something people can hang onto," Mackenzie said. Even at that, he said, few people can easily conceive of what earning \$7.7 million really means. "It means you don't think anything of getting on a plane Friday afternoon and flying to London to go to the theatre. You don't think anything of flying to Whistler to ski for the weekend."

Total executive compensation includes base salary, bonus, stocks and stock options, and the value of things like pension and dental plans, use of a corporate jet and other benefits.

But the research also has another purpose: To examine how trends in executive compensation are changing. Corporate governance became a hot topic earlier in the decade after a series of high-profile corporate collapses saw executives pocket millions while ordinary investors lost their life savings.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Leaders of the pack



Frank Stronach, honorary chair of Magna International Inc., was the highest earning CEO in 2011.
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Among the highest paid CEOs in Canada:

- Frank Stronach, honorary chair of Magna International Inc., led the CEO pay parade, earning \$40 million in 2011.
- Michael Pearson, head of Montreal-based Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc., came in second with a pay packet of \$36.3 million, most of it in shares. In third place was Robert Quartermain, head of Vancouver-based gold exploration firm Pretium Resources Inc., at \$16.9 million.
- The top 10 also includes Bradley Shaw of Shaw Communications; Ned Goodman of Dundee Corp.; Rick George of Suncor Energy Inc.; Donald Walker at Magna; Gerald Schwartz at Onex Corp.; Robert Friedland at Ivanhoe Mines and Peter Marrone at Yamana Gold Inc.
- The heads of the five biggest banks in Canada were all within the top 20 highest paid CEOs, earning an average of \$11 million each.

Washington, D.C. Rare New Year's Day session ends successfully after Senate and House OK compromise bill

Legislation to block the "fiscal cliff" is headed to the White House for President Barack Obama's signature. The bill will avoid, for now, the major tax increases and government spending cuts that had been scheduled to take effect with the new year.

Final approval came in the House on New Year's Night. The vote was 257 to 167.

The Senate passed the bill less than 24 hours earlier.

The measure raises tax rates on incomes over \$400,000 for individuals and \$450,000 for couples — a victory for Obama.

It also extends expiring unemployment benefits for the long-term jobless, prevents a cut in fees for doctors who treat Medicare patients and cancels a \$900 pay increase due to lawmakers in March.

Supporters of the bill in both parties expressed regret that the bill was narrowly drawn, and fell far short of a sweeping plan that combined tax changes and spending cuts to reduce federal deficits. That proved to be a step too far in the two months since Obama called congressional leaders to the White House for a post-election stab at compromise.

Majority Republicans did their best to minimize the

Online

For the latest updates, visit metronews.ca



Fiscal cliff deal passed after late-night vote



Sen. John Barrasso, left, R-Wyo., talks with Sen. Brian Schatz, D-Hawaii, who holds up his watch, after a vote on the fiscal cliff Tuesday on Capitol Hill. The Senate and House passed legislation early New Year's Day to neutralize a fiscal cliff combination of across-the-board tax increases and spending cuts that kicked in at midnight. ALEX BRANDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Let's make a deal

- The Senate and House-approved measure will be the first significant bipartisan tax increase since 1990, when former president George H.W. Bush violated his "read my lips" promise on taxes.
- It will raise an additional \$620 billion US over the

coming decade when compared with revenues after tax cuts passed in 2001 and 2003, during the Bush administration. But because those policies expired at midnight Monday, the measure is officially scored as a whopping \$3.9-trillion US tax cut over the next decade.

siderable.

Economists have warned that without action by Congress, the tax increases and spending cuts that technically took effect with the turn of the new year at midnight could have sent the economy into recession.

House Majority Leader Eric

Cantor told reporters at one point, "I do not support the bill. We are looking, though, for the best path forward."

Within hours, Republicans abandoned demands for changes and agreed to a simple yes-or-no vote on the Senate-passed bill.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris

Armed thieves rob Apple flagship

Masked and armed thieves used the New Year's Eve fete to rob the flagship Apple store in Paris.

The French press reported that up to about \$1.3 million in goods were stolen at the store behind the Paris Opera house, a figure police would not immediately confirm. The theft occurred about 9 p.m. Monday, while police were deployed around the famed Champs-Élysées Avenue where revellers traditionally gather on New Year's Eve.

Christophe Crepin of the Unsa police union said the "well prepared" operation was carried out by four masked and armed individuals.

The daily Le Parisien reported the thieves entered the store by threatening a security guard at a back entrance. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Moscow

Good luck buying a brew in Russia

A big question in Russia in 2013 may be, "How do I get a beer around here?"

Under a law that took effect on New Year's Day,

selling beer at the kiosks that mushroomed along Russian sidewalks and roadsides after the collapse of the Soviet Union has been banned. In a measure meant to address Russia's high rate of problem drinking, beer now can be purchased only at restaurants, cafés and stores of at least 50 square metres (about 500 square feet).

The law also changes beer's classification from a food to an alcoholic beverage, meaning it can't be sold in any store from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. It also cracks down on casual consumption of alcohol, forbidding it in public spaces.

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YOLO, SO IT'S TIME TO RETIRE THESE CLICHÉS



JUST
SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/voices/
just-saying

How many times over the past year have you heard the term "double down"?

If you answered, "Too many," you probably feel much the same way about other misused and abused words and phrases of 2012, including, but not restricted to: Fiscal cliff, trending, passion, spoiler alert, bucket list, superfood and the now unavoidable YOLO (you only live once).

These and others turned up on this year's Lake Superior State University's 2013 List of Banned Words. When you're only a minor seat of higher learning in the snowbelt — and not Harvard — you need to come up with a shtick to get noticed.

Back in 1975, some PR genius at LSSU came up with the idea of an annual list of words that need to be banned. Every year, the university publishes a selection of words and phrases compiled from the submissions of grumpy wordsmiths across North America, and every year, the news services cover it as if it's actually news. Of course, "wordsmit" made the list one year, but, like most of the other words on the list, people just keep on using them ... until they don't.

The list is more important now than ever as the alarming proliferation of bloggers who feed off other bloggers has led to the near-complete eradication of original thought, as everyone doubles down on the trending slang.

It's like you belong to a club, and the only requirement for membership is that you have to use the trendy word before your mother texts it to her BFF (previously banned abbreviation for best friend forever). If you continue to use it after that, you earn the scorn of the haters, but I'm sure everyone else thinks you're terribly trending.

The problem with "trending," according to its nominators, is that it's not up to the task: Trending which way? Up? Down? Out?

The problem with the fiscal cliff is obvious. Talk about a lazy reference to the worst financial crisis of the century to date. But instead of working hard to understand it, all of us lemmings prefer to roll it up and package it in a neat phrase that we can take with us as we go over it.

"Double down" is particularly odious. It allows you to pretend you're a real riverboat gambler, comfortable with high-risk blackjack strategies, when you don't know jack about doubling down or hitting me up or whatever.

One of my faves this year is "passion," as in "That's my passion," justifying some inane or inherently dangerous practice you're currently enthusiastic about. "Passion" goes well with "fruit" and "Easter," but otherwise should be avoided as overkill.

Just because YOLO doesn't mean you should give in to your passion for clichés.

Just sayin'.



Oh yeah? Trend this: Psy, left, performs in Times Square during New Year's Eve celebrations in New York City. The South Korean rapper was third in Google's 12th-annual ranking of trending searches for 2012.

CHARLES SYKES/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Moscow on the Mediterranean



ODED BALITY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Distinct society

From Russia with love of culture

The children of immigrants from the former Soviet Union attend a ballet class in Lod, central Israel. The Soviet state crumbled 20 years ago, and in the aftermath, more than one million of its citizens took advantage of Jewish roots to emigrate to Israel. Some prominent ballet dancers were among them, forming ballet schools and continuing a dance culture highly regarded in their mother country.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Growing influence

3rd

Israel has the world's third-largest Russian-speaking community outside of the former Soviet Union, after the U.S. and Germany. Today, Russian-speaking émigrés and their children occupy virtually every corner of Israeli society, from academia and technology to the military and politics. Every fourth employee in Israel's flourishing high-tech industry is a Russian-speaking immigrant, as is every other engineer. The world's second-ranked chess master, Belarus-born Boris Gelfand, lives in Israel, and about one-quarter of Israel's Olympic coaches grew up in the former Soviet Union.

Kosher clash



ODED BALITY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An employee of the Mizra pork-processing plant poses with a pig's head in a refrigerated warehouse in Kibbutz Mizra, northern Israel. The Russian immigrant community has increased demand for pork in the country, a non-kosher food rarely eaten by Israeli Jews.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Old country and new

Russian power on the rise

By virtue of their sheer numbers in a country of eight million people, the Russian population has transformed Israel. In parts of the country, it's hard to find a single Hebrew sign in a sea of Cyrillic. Shopkeepers address customers in Russian and stores are amply stocked with red caviar and vodka. Russian pop beats thump at bars, and in some homes, people are as likely to be hunched over a chessboard as they are a computer keyboard.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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How long could you survive in your house if there was a severe natural disaster?



@bcmikejetsfan:

When we win the cup, the name engraved won't be Former Thrashers, New Jets or Old Jets, it will just be Winnipeg Jets.

@jordansawatzky:

So the first 2012 murder in #Winnipeg was January 23. Can we try not making that a statistic this year?

@Shawnelwood:

I wanna thank the Winnipeg Police for being there. My mind was not in the right place last night.

THANK YOU! #winnipegpolice

@EricAbromeit:

I'm working making sure everyone can get a hangover curing cup of coffee & greasy breakfast at their local Sals. #HappyNewYear #Winnipeg

@shenorthwilson:

So does that make @NellyFurtado The First One to shout out #idlenomore on a big stage like that?! Wahoo, Thank you Nelly



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While previous studies by a variety of authors addressed the relationship between the right to privacy and the right to freedom of expression, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights has not done so. This paper attempts to fill this gap by addressing the right to privacy in the context of the right to freedom of expression.

DVD review



Looper

Director. Rian Johnson

Stars. Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Emily Blunt

• • • •

Looper is a real head flip of a time trip, definitely not your usual ray gun routine, which is why it was chosen as the gala opener for this year's TIFF. Skillfully bending genres since he first smashed with Brick in 2005, Rian Johnson puts that film's star, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, into an identity crisis sci-fi thriller set in the Kansas of 2044. JGL plays Joe, a "looper" (hit man) working for innovative mobsters from the year 2074, who use a time machine to send their victims back three decades for untraceable bullets and burning. Bruce Willis and Emily Blunt co-star in this future shocker that is smarter than most, at least until the novelty wears thin.

PETER HOWELL

Cosmopolis

Director. David Cronenberg

Stars. Robert Pattinson, Juliette Binoche

• • • •

A blockbuster of the mind, Cosmopolis fascinates as much for what writer/director David Cronenberg shows us as for what he chooses not to. There's a lot of sex, violence, despair and talk, talk, talk in this quasi-thriller, which places Twilight's Robert Pattinson inside a white stretch limo for a day-long odyssey through Manhattan and his own messed-up mind. We might quibble with the emphasis Cronenberg places on dialogue, on the staginess of his sets and on the relative lack of action. What we can't argue is that Cosmopolis is the work of a master filmmaker, one determined to have us think about the ideas packed into the trunk of this limo bound for the furthest corners of the psyche. **PETER HOWELL**



Horror icon Leatherface returns to hunt unsuspecting teenagers in the latest installment of The Texas Chainsaw Massacre series, *Texas Chainsaw 3D*. **HANDOUT**

Carving out a killer franchise – in 3D

Horror. The Texas Chainsaw Massacre's Leatherface has been terrifying audiences for more than 30 years



IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Two far-flung events inspired director Tobe Hooper to write The Texas Chainsaw Massacre, the down-and-dirty 1974 indie film that spawned sequels, prequels and this weekend's splashy 3D remake — the imaginatively titled Texas Chainsaw 3D.

In November 1957, police raided the home of Plainfield, Wis., farmer Ed Gein, uncovering gruesome evidence that would lead to charges of murder and body snatching.

After two trials, he spent the rest of his life in a mental facility, but his story would go on to inspire three characters — Norman Bates from Psycho, Buffalo Bill from The Silence of the Lambs and one other that would serve as the basis for six films.

Gunnar Hansen, who played Leatherface in Texas Chainsaw Massacre, says Hooper and co-writer Kim Henkel based the character of the hooded chainsaw killer on Gein.

"When they set out to write this movie," he said, "they decided to have a family of killers who had some of the char-

acteristics of Gein: the skin masks, the furniture made from bones, the possibility of cannibalism."

Hooper adds the story was also partially inspired by "the massacres and atrocities in the Vietnam War" and a display of chainsaws in the hardware section of a crowded Montgomery Ward's department store.

"The idea popped," he remembered. "I said, 'Ooh, I know how I could get out of this place fast — if I just start one of these things up and make that sound.'"

That nerve-jangling noise — the revving of a chainsaw — has been the soundtrack of terror ever since. The original is an atmospheric gem, a white-knuckle movie that made Leatherface the first icon of modern horror.

The apron-wearing cannibal has appeared in five more films — most of which don't veer too far from the original plot line of unsuspecting kids falling prey to a family of demented, cannibalistic inbreds.

There's The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2, starring Dennis Hopper, Leatherface: TCM III, TCM: The Next Generation (starring the then-unknown Matthew McConaughey and Renée Zellweger), 2003's The Texas Chainsaw Massacre, TCM: The Beginning and the new 3D version.

Leatherface's scares don't always happen on screen, however. At the Kingsway Theatre in Toronto, the flick inspired audience participation when someone dressed in a butcher's outfit ran down the aisle brandishing a real, revving chainsaw.

Behind the scenes

Chainsaws are the real deal

Metro World News sits down with Alexandra Daddario and Trey Songz, the stars of the new Texas Chainsaw 3D, to talk about joining the long-running horror franchise, the perils of being in a scary movie and how their opinions of chainsaws have changed.

This is not the first Texas Chainsaw movie. How many of the previous films have you seen?

TREY SONGZ: I've seen three.

ALEXANDRA DADDARIO: I've seen two. I think Trey is more of a horror fan than I am. I get scared really easily. But I watched the Jessica Biel version and the original.

Being a horror fan, what's your dream way to get offed in a horror movie?

TS: I mean, the ultimate thing in a horror movie is to make it through, so ... (laughs) But my dream way to get done in? I don't know. In Saw there were so many creative ways to die. That's what

I really liked about the film. But I

haven't dreamed of ways of dying recently (laughs).

Acting in a horror movie, you're doing a lot of running and screaming. How exhausting is that compared to a less horrific movie?

AD: Definitely — being an actress, part of what you have to do is try to stay in as best shape as you can. I knew that I was going to a very hot place — we shot in Louisiana in July and August, so I prepared. I did hot yoga and I tried to prepare so I wouldn't pass out on set, and I made it through.

Having done this movie now, would you say you're both more or less afraid of chainsaws?

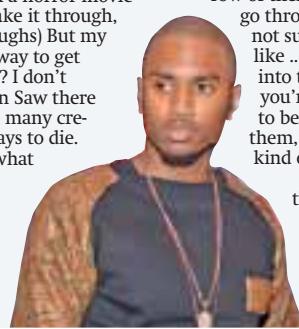
TS: I would say chainsaws are petrifying.

AD: Yes. I think I've always probably been scared of chainsaws, but I've never really encountered one until this movie.

TS: There was a whole row of them on set. You'd go through and you're not supposed to be, like ... I crept off into the trailer that you're not supposed to be in and touched them, and they were kind of like, not dull.

AD: Yeah, they're real chainsaws.

NED EHRBAR



Trey Songz
GETTY IMAGES

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Entertainment. From 'Hey, sexy lady' to saying goodbye to an icon, Metro looks back at some of the year's biggest moments.

Top 5

1 Whitney Houston dies.

2 Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes divorce.

3 Kristen Stewart cheats on Robert Pattinson.

4 PSY takes over the world with Gangnam Style.

5 The royals are having a baby.

• Whitney Houston's death in February was a tragic event that symbolically set the tone



Pop icon Whitney Houston was only 48 years old when she died on Feb. 11.
GETTY IMAGES

for a year where the old guard in soul and R&B gave way to a younger generation, as kids like Frank Ocean, Miguel and The Weeknd basically reinvented the genre in 2012.™

PAT HEALY

• I remember going to a party and it's all anyone could talk about. I mean, we all knew she wasn't doing well, but I guess we didn't realize the

extent of her fall from grace until it was too late." **DOROTHY ROBINSON**

• "Our 'Kristen, how could you?' cover is blown-up and hanging on the wall next to my desk. Every day I ask myself the same thing." **MEREDITH ENGEL**

• "At the risk of giving this any more ink: Robert Pattinson's hair at least deserves to be cheated on in a proper hotel room." **MONICA WEYMOUTH**

• "I can't believe you would vote for Stewart/Pattinson break up when we don't mention Fifty Shades. It's bonkers it's not on this list. But maybe it's not because we are all still wondering how such badly written erotica could take off like it did." **DR**

• "I just wanted to say that I think my 2012 approach to the Kardashian family has really worked this year. I vowed at the onset of 2012 to not speak the Kardashian

Editor's picks

The Word's Top 5

- 1. Whitney's death
- 2. Fifty Shades phenomenon
- 3. Gangnam Style
- 4. Twilight breakup
- 5. Katie and Tom divorce

I hate to be so morbid that Whitney's death would be the biggest event of the year, but it was just so shocking.

Coming in at No. 2 for

me is Fifty Shades of Grey. It's not too often that a book comes along that every single woman, from your housekeeper to your grandmother, has read.

Unfortunately, this was that book. And it was neat to see Gangnam taking over The Macarena as the biggest dance craze of the century.

DOROTHY ROBINSON

name aloud. And look at how you're not seeing them on quite as many magazine covers in the checkout line. They're not even on this list! It's the power of the cosmic unconscious, people! Yes, the one that they call Kim is doing whatever she can to keep her flicker of fame alight — hiring Kanye West to pretend like he's into her and now pregnant with his child — but in 2013 if we all agree not to speak the name of that family, I think we can finally make them go away forever."

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The Real Middle-earth

With last month's world premiere of Peter Jackson's *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* in New Zealand, a trip to experience Middle-earth is likely on the bucket list for many fans. Below are some of the top New Zealand tourism activities focused on *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*.

RUTH AHERLEY
life@metronews.ca

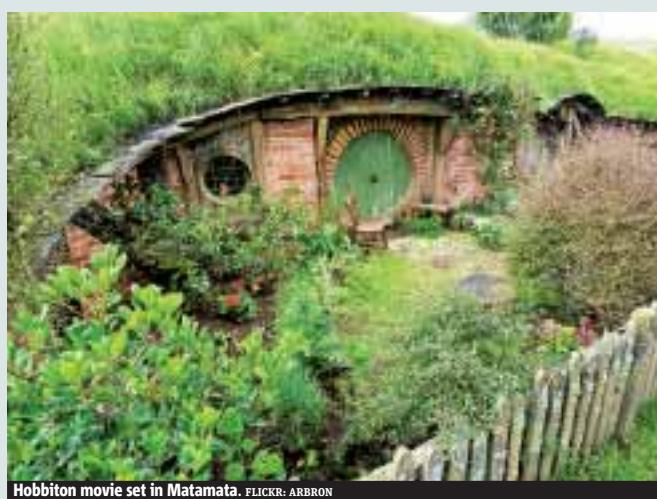
Hobbiton

Near Matamata, a picturesque town just two and a half hours from Auckland (New Zealand's largest city and the gateway to Middle-earth), visitors can enjoy a guided tour of the Hobbiton movie set.

Hidden in the magical, spectacularly green, rolling hills of the area is Hobbiton, the film set made famous in *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy.

Along with 37 Hobbit holes, fans can check out the Green Dragon Inn, The Mill and other structures used in the upcoming films. Not only has Hobbiton gained fame as a movie set, it is also a working farm experience, cafe and conference facility.

It's definitely a must for anyone who wants to truly experience the "Shire" when in New Zealand.



Hobbiton movie set in Matamata. FLICKR: ARBRON



Mountain bike skippers canyon track, Queenstown. FLICKR: TRAILSOURCE.COM

Four-wheel drive safari tour in Queenstown

Any reason to visit Queenstown, on New Zealand's South Island, is a good one, and a four-wheel drive adventure through Middle-earth gives visitors a great reason to go.

The Queenstown area was prominently featured in the filming of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy and Nomad Safaris offers two different tours designed specifically for fans.

The guides are definitely one of the highlights of the tour — many were extras in the films. They know, and are happy to share, all of the local gossip about what the stars of the movies did while they were filming in the area.

Wellington

Everyone who goes to Wellington falls in love with the fun, foodie and fashion-focused city that sits at the southern tip of the North Island.

Known to many as "Wellywood" because of its flourishing film industry, fans can experience the ultimate Middle-earth full-day tour with Wellington Rover Tours — where fans can follow in the footsteps of Hobbits, and spend the day learning film secrets. Wellington also boasts the Weta Cave, which screens a behind-the-scenes look at Weta and interviews co-founder Peter Jackson, among others, has a mini-museum with some of the characters and features props and displays from *The Lord of the Rings* films.



Wellington. FLICKR: ASGW

Regional highlights



Hamilton Waikato

Hobbits have roamed the hills at Hobbiton movie set, near Matamata, where *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* Trilogies were filmed.



Christchurch Canterbury

The Canterbury region was used for numerous locations for *The Lord of the Rings* Trilogy and the Mount Cook region has been used again for *The Hobbit*.

Aoraki Mount Cook (3,754 metres) is New Zealand's highest mountain and means cloud piercer.



Central Otago

Central Otago, another picturesque filming location and popular with vacationers, is renowned for being the hottest, coldest and driest part of New Zealand. It is also New Zealand's most inland region. **RUTH AHERLEY**

See for yourself

Air New Zealand (airnewzealand.ca) has direct non-stop flights from Vancouver to Auckland and offers flights from many other North American cities. For more information about New Zealand, please visit: NewZealand.com.

- Hobbiton movie set tours — hobbitontours.com.



Broccoli Pasta does double duty as a warming dish and a cash saver

Whenever you have too little time and too few ingredients on hand — or when you've been eating too much meat — a great alternative is some Broccoli Pasta.

It's delicious, healthy, inexpensive and easy to prepare. The recipe, in fact, is a cinch, consisting of just a few ingredients — pasta, chicken broth, Parmigiano-Reggiano, olive oil and a large head of the namesake crucifer.

Another of this recipe's charms is its flexibility. You can swap in vegetable broth

for chicken broth, spaghetti for the angel hair pasta, and any other grated hard cheese for the Parmigiano-Reggiano. Sometimes you can even lose the broccoli in favour of roasted cauliflower or Brussels sprouts.

But what makes the dish so popular is its comfort factor. It can be served soupy, so you can slurp the chicken broth along with the strands of pasta. You can also make sure there's some crusty bread within easy reach, which helps to mop up the broth not captured with a spoon.

This dish is so economical it's almost ecological.

1. Heat oven to 450 F. Position one of the racks in top third of oven.

2. Bring pot of water to a boil.

3. Cut broccoli, including the stems, into 2-inch pieces. Peel any thick stem pieces to remove the thick skin.

4. On rimmed baking sheet, arrange broccoli in single layer. Drizzle with oil then sprinkle with salt to taste and toss well.

Cold Weather Broccoli Pasta



This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Place on top oven rack and roast for 10 minutes, or until broccoli is crisp tender and slightly brown at the edges. Transfer the broccoli to a large skillet, add the pepper flakes and the chicken broth, then bring to a boil over medium-high heat.

5. When water in large pot comes to boil, add a hefty pinch of salt and the pasta. Stir and cook 2 minutes, or until the pasta is limp but not quite cooked through. Drain pasta and transfer it to the broccoli pan. Simmer for 2 minutes, or

until the pasta is al dente. Stir in the Parmigiano-Reggiano and salt to taste. Ladle into shallow soup bowls and serve.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/SARA MOULTON IS THE AUTHOR OF THREE COOKBOOKS, INCLUDING SARA MOULTON'S **EVERYDAY FAMILY DINNERS**.

Ingredients

- 1 large head broccoli (about 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 pounds)
- 2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
- Kosher salt
- 1 to 2 tsp red pepper flakes, or to taste
- 1 quart low-sodium chicken stock
- 1/2 lb whole-wheat capellini pasta
- 1 cup freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese

Drink of the Week

Winter Wind

This drink contains traditional holiday spices and ingredients that remind recipe creator Nishan Nepulongoda of festive seasons.

"The sweetness of cinnamon mixed with fresh lime citrus creates a balanced taste that has an added hint of spice when topped with the ginger beer," says Nepulongoda, a mixologist at Blowfish Restaurant in Toronto.

- 60 ml (2 oz) gin
- 30 ml (1 oz) fresh lime juice
- 30 ml (1 oz) simple syrup
- Pinch ground cinnamon powder
- Ice cubes
- Ginger beer
- Lime slice, for garnish

Shake all ingredients with ice. Pour into a rocks glass with fresh ice. Top up with ginger beer.



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Are you getting all a-Twitter about social media? Link on the bright side

Success on a screen.

The web world is complex, but connecting is key to climbing the job ladder

LEAH
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In this day and age, having an online presence is just as essential to your job search as having an error-free résumé.

However, between LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook and Google+ it can be difficult to master how to effectively manage your many online lives.

Once you've upped your Facebook privacy settings as high as they can go, it's pretty easy to learn how to navigate the 'book.

However, mediums like LinkedIn and Twitter can be a bit trickier to grasp, especially for students and recent grads who don't already have built-



Getting involved in a LinkedIn group can help you keep up with new developments in your field while simultaneously networking. But don't just be a name in the group — participate in discussions and offer input.

ISTOCK

in professional networks.

Here are a few tips for getting started:

Mastering the Twitterverse

- **Begin by listening**

Use Twitter's search function to find people and feeds which are of interest to you.

Spend some time exploring these outlets and looking at how they are utilizing Twitter.

- **Maintain your humanity**

Keep your tweeting tone natural and in your own voice.

The whole point of Twitter

Online and employable

Click boldly through the land of LinkedIn using these simple tips:

- A full profile is a fulfilling profile. Provide as much information as you can, including work history, key responsibilities and educational history. Be specific and highlight key accomplishments so as to give others a clear example of the type of work you're capable of doing.
- It's all about quality, not

quantity. It's easy to aimlessly connect with people in an effort to build up your number of contacts and appear more "popular." Don't invite strangers to your network and don't be offended when those same strangers ignore your requests. Just as a chain is only as strong as its weakest link, your network is only as strong as its weakest connection. It's not just how many people you know, but who these people are.

is to show who you are and what interests you.

- **Make like a pencil and have a point**

Share links to relevant articles and express your own views.

Tweet out information your followers will find valuable rather than which nail polish colour or salad dressing

you went with today.

- **Tweet regularly**

Keep your profile current and tweet on a regular basis. This keeps your online presence up to date and will hold the attention of your followers.

That being said, if you have nothing to say, don't feel you have to post.

• Pay it forward

Reteeting the posts of others builds rapport with your followers, sparks conversation and demonstrates to others that you don't think it's all about you — you can appreciate what others have to say as well.

• Be appreciative

Acknowledge retweets by publicly thanking those who share your posts — unless your every tweet gets tweeted 900 times. Then use some discretion (and probably expect an invitation to appear on The Ellen DeGeneres Show).

• Keep it simple

You only have 140 characters to make your point, so get right to it. Try using less than the 140 cap in order to make it easier for others to retweet what you have posted.

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Penn State scandal

Governor to file federal lawsuit against NCAA over sanctions

Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett said Tuesday he plans to sue the NCAA in federal court over stiff sanctions imposed against Penn State University in the wake of the Jerry Sandusky child-sexual-abuse scandal.

The Republican governor scheduled a Wednesday news conference on the Penn State campus in State College to announce the antitrust filing in U.S. District Court in Harrisburg, Pa.

The sanctions, which were agreed to by the university in July, included a \$60-million fine that would be used nationally to finance child-abuse-prevention grants. The sanctions also included a four-year bowl-game ban for the university's marquee football program, reduced football scholarships and the forfeiture of 112 wins, but didn't include a suspension of the football program, the so-called death penalty.

The governor's office announced the news conference late Tuesday afternoon. His spokesman did not respond to repeated calls and emails seeking to confirm a Sports Illustrated story that cited anonymous sources saying a lawsuit was imminent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett

GETTY IMAGES FILE



Team Canada teammates Dougie Hamilton, left, Anthony Camara and Malcolm Subban pretend to bobsleigh during practice on Saturday in Ufa, Russia.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Juniors forge identity half a world away

World juniors. Far from home, Canadian team sticking together on and off the ice

Goaltending coach Ron Tugnutt mused aloud during the Canadian junior hockey team's selection camp in Calgary that travelling 13 time zones to pursue a gold medal might not be a disadvantage for the team.

The world junior hockey championship was held in North America for four consecutive years from 2009 to 2012, in Ottawa, Buffalo, Saskatoon and then jointly in Calgary and Edmonton.

The moment the Canadian team stepped off the ice in

Quoted

"Now you're into one-game situations and we all know they are very difficult games, but I do like the place our team is in right now and I like the mindset of the group."

Canadian junior coach Steve Spott

those tournaments, their performance was reflected back to them around the clock via wall-to-wall media coverage.

Tugnutt hoped Ufa, Russia, would afford this team some isolation.

"They won't be seeing as much of themselves on TV," he said then. "We're kind of on our own little island out there. I think this will be good for us."

After concluding the preliminary round 4-0 to finish first in Pool B, some Canadian

players spoke of the unifying effect of travelling so far from home. They've been abroad together since Dec. 15, when Canada departed Calgary for a pre-competition camp and exhibition games in Finland.

"We had a few days in Vierumaki to definitely grow that bond," captain Ryan Nugent-Hopkins said. "It's amazing how much we've come together in this tournament on and off the ice."

Canadian coach Steve Spott

Waiting for their foe

Canada earned a bye to Thursday's semifinal after finishing first in Pool B.

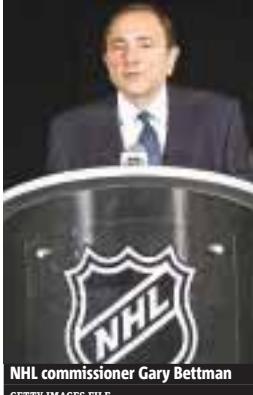
- They await the winner of Wednesday's quarter-final between the Czech Republic and the U.S.

has observed that his players seem happiest off ice when they're hanging around their hotel together.

"They don't want to leave the hotel," Spott said. "We've had a number of team activities planned, but they enjoy being around each other in the hotel, and that, to me, is a sign of a great hockey club."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL tables counter-proposal to union



NHL commissioner Gary Bettman

GETTY IMAGES FILE

The NHL delivered a comprehensive counter-proposal to the NHL Players' Association on Tuesday night as the sides pushed to reach an agreement to save the season.

NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr said the union would review the document during the evening and expected to return to the bargaining table at some point on Wednesday.

Fehr declined to be specific about what was being negotiated. "It's better to be meeting than not but I'm not saying anything else more about it," he said.

The talks are being held

By the numbers

108

There are signs the 108-day lockout is nearing its end. Players who have spent time in Europe are starting to trickle back to North America, including Bruins forward Tyler Seguin and Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist, who wrote on Twitter that "hopefully I'm coming back for the right reason."

with an eye on preserving at least a 48-game schedule — the same number that was played following the 1994-95 lockout. An agreement would need to be in place by Jan. 11 for that

to happen.

"The fact that we're involved in a continuous process is something that I'm glad to see, but we're clearly not done yet," said commissioner Gary Bettman.

League officials met well into the night Monday after receiving a new offer from the union that Fehr said included movement on key issues.

It came three days after the NHL tabled a new offer that sparked the latest round of talks.

"We covered the range of subjects they covered," said Fehr.

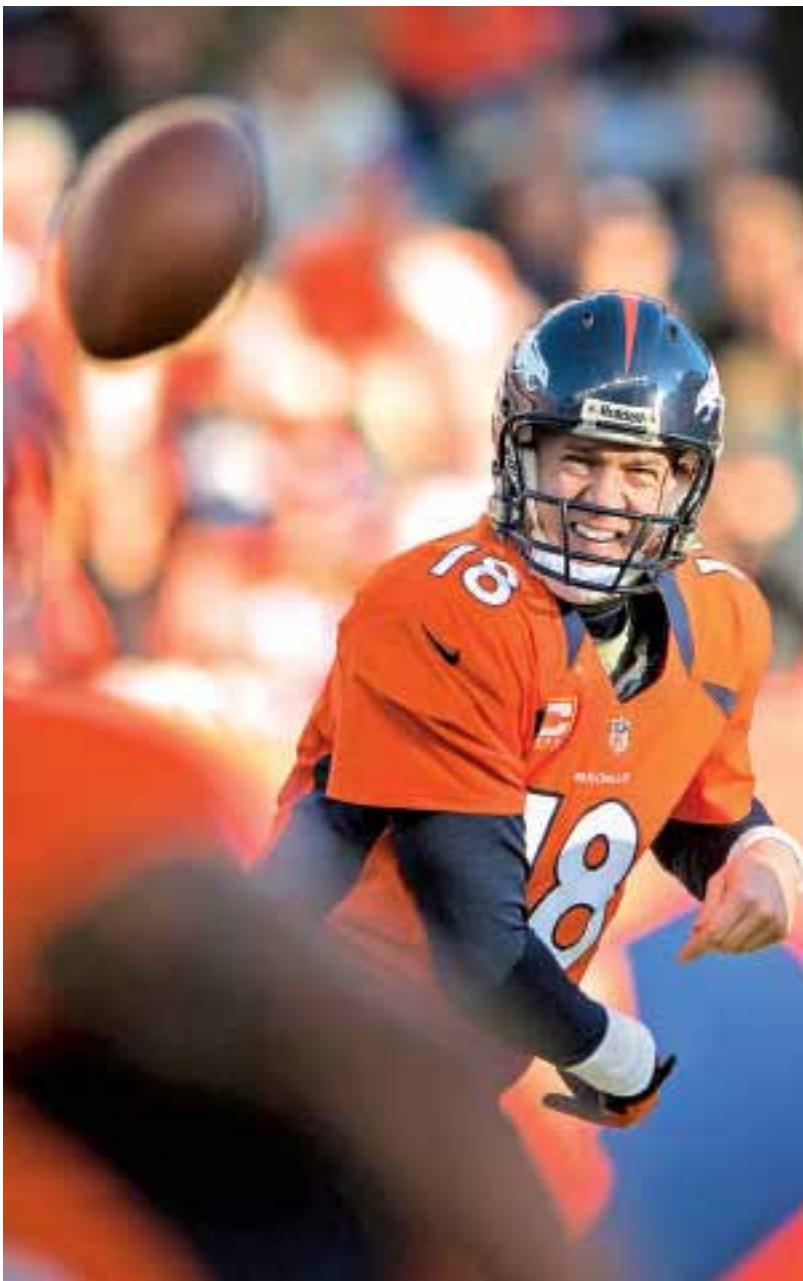
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Back at the table

The NHL's most recent offer saw it soften demands on new contract rules and included a salary cap of \$60 million for the 2013-14 season — a number the union believes is too low.

- While few details of the NHLPA's new proposal are known, commissioner Gary Bettman indicated that it brought attention to the key issues that still need to be addressed.

4
SPORTS



While the AFC-leading Denver Broncos and quarterback Peyton Manning are planning to stay sharp during their weekend off, eight teams NFL teams will open the playoffs this weekend. DUSTIN BRADFORD/GETTY IMAGES

Eagles on the hunt for new coach

Jeffrey Lurie's search for the Philadelphia Eagles' next coach began before he fired Andy Reid and could last until the Super Bowl.

While the Eagles were struggling toward a 4-12 finish, Lurie "meticulously and in great detail" researched potential successors to replace a coach that won more games than any other in franchise history.

Reid, however, didn't win a Super Bowl, and the team still is seeking its first NFL title since 1960. Lurie considers the Vince Lombardi Trophy his "obsession."

So, the pressure's on to find a coach who can deliver that elusive championship.

The Eagles already have



Philadelphia already has a list of candidates to replace former coach Andy Reid. ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

lined up interviews with three assistant coaches on the Atlanta Falcons: defensive co-ordinator Mike Nolan, offensive co-ordinator Dirk Koetter and special-teams coach Keith Armstrong. The Falcons (13-3) are the No. 1 seed in the NFC play-

offs and have a bye this week.

Other NFL assistants that are likely on Lurie's "very defined list" include Denver's Mike McCoy, San Francisco's Greg Roman and Vic Fangio, Cincinnati's Jay Gruden and Mike Zimmer, Seattle's Gus Bradley, Green Bay's Ben McAdoo and Arizona's Ray Horton.

Bruce Arians, who was 9-3 as interim coach with Indianapolis, is another candidate.

Oregon's Chip Kelly may be the most sought-after coach from the college ranks and he's said to be atop Philadelphia's list.

Fans hoping the Eagles make a big splash and hire a high-profile coach like Bill Cowher or Jon Gruden are probably going to be dis-

NFL's top dogs hope to buck bye-week jinx

Odds on upset. Teams with free pass this weekend hope to stay sharp, while others look to build on momentum

The Denver Broncos and Atlanta Falcons, who tied for the league's best record at 13-3, are well aware of one of the NFL's biggest truisms: more often than not, the regular season is for suckers.

Over the last decade, just two of the 13 teams that had the best regular season record — or tied for the best mark — went on to win the Super Bowl: the '02 Buccaneers and the '03 Patriots.

The last eight teams to enter the playoffs with the best record bowed out before they could put their fingerprints on the Lombardi Trophy and revel in a rain of confetti.

Both the Broncos and Falcons are promising to practice like champions this week and not allow rest and relaxation to turn into rust and ruin.

In the last seven seasons, three No. 6 seeds and a No. 4 seed ended up winning it all, giving hope to the likes of the Ravens, Redskins, Bengals and Vikings in this year's playoff pool.

A year ago, the Green Bay Packers rested their regulars in the season finale and they

lost their edge, becoming the first 15-1 team to lose its first playoff game — to a New York Giants team that was 7-7 in mid-December and went on to win it all.

"That's kind of what it was for us when I was in Indy," Broncos wide receiver Brandon Stokley said of the '05 Colts, who went 14-2 but lost to Pittsburgh in the divisional round. "We kind of rested the last week, then we had a bye. It's too much. So, I like just grinding every week, just playing football."

That's exactly what Peyton Manning's new team did, securing the AFC's top seed Sunday with its 11th straight win.

Along with the Falcons, Patriots and 49ers, the Broncos get a break this week, one that can prove a pitfall as much as a profit.

"We've just got to practice like we're playing this week," Denver receiver Eric Decker said.

While the Broncos stormed into the playoffs, the Falcons, who already had the NFC's top seed secured, didn't gain any momentum Sunday, losing to Tampa Bay.

"Before this game was played, we were the No. 1 seed in the playoffs; at the end of the game, nothing has changed," Falcons tight end Tony Gonzalez reasoned. "We're a very good team. We'll just use this as a wake-up call."

Broncos coach John Fox is using the bye week to stay sharp, calling for short, crisp practices on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and a mandatory weightlifting session Saturday, mainly to keep the team "focused."

Nevada oddsmakers have made the Broncos the favourite to win the Super Bowl.

Of course, the Packers were in this position last year. It's not just the NFL in which the season's best team usually falters in the playoffs.

In the last 10 seasons, only two teams in each of the other major pro-sports leagues parlayed the best regular-season record into a championship, according to STATS, LLC.

Since the first Super Bowl, the team with the best regular-season record has won just 21 of 46 championships, or 46 per cent, which is more than in the NHL (42 per cent), NBA (41 per cent) and MLB (28 per cent), according to STATS, LLC figures. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Wild-card matchups

A look at the opening round of the NFL playoffs:

- **Saturday.** AFC: Cincinnati at Houston; NFC: Minnesota at Green Bay.
- **Sunday.** AFC: Indianapolis at Baltimore; NFC: Seattle at Washington.

Chicago shakeup

Bears bid farewell to Lovie Smith

Chicago Bears general manager Phil Emery says too many playoff misses and the inability to develop a productive offence led to coach Lovie Smith's firing.

Missing the playoffs — for the fifth time in six years — and the offensive problems were simply too much to overlook, so they cut ties with their coach after a nine-year run that included a Super Bowl appearance.

Emery said Tuesday he'll be interviewing potential replacements over the next two weeks and would like to have one in place by later this month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shuffle in Buffalo

Bills promote Russ Brandon to team president

Buffalo Bills CEO Russ Brandon added the title of team president Tuesday and said Buddy Nix will remain the club's general manager.

The news came a day after the Bills fired coach Chan Gailey. Brandon's promotion gives him operational control of the franchise and he will report directly to owner Ralph Wilson, who previously held the president's title.

The Bills are coming off their second-consecutive 6-10 season and extended the NFL's longest playoff drought to 13 years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Revving up some auto nostalgia

Danny Koker, the restomodding maestro on *Pawn Stars*' speed dial, has revved the engine on a spinoff series. On History's *Counting Cars* (premieres tonight 9 p.m. ET/PT), The Count hunts down classic wheels, fixes 'em up and then either flips them or adds the finished beauties to his personal collection. We sought Koker's counsel on some of the sweetest rides to grace the small and big screen.

MIKE DOJC
drive@metronews.ca



1968 Mustang GT 390 Fastback, Bullitt

You can't picture this car without Steve McQueen behind the wheel. The image of the muted highland green muscle car — with deleted emblems and a blacked out tail panel — burning up the hilly streets of San Francisco in hot pursuit of a jet black Dodge Charger has seared itself into the consciousness of cinephiles and auto enthusiasts alike.

Restoration challenge:

Rust is a common issue and you'll likely have to start with a real beater. "Everybody loves to hot rod old mustangs. Lots of them have been crashed on drag strips and roadrace courses, or somebody's teenage kid has wrapped one around a tree. Good examples are getting hard to find, so you're having to settle," explains Koker, who puts \$22,000 into a real hunk of junk and transforms it into a beautiful Bullitt tribute on the debut episode.

Price:

\$50 to 60k depending on options.



1961 Ferrari 250 GT California Spyder, Ferris Bueller's Day Off

Car crazed teens drooled on their popcorn over this candy red V12 five-speed aluminum-bodied dream machine when Matthew Broderick took this "so choice" beauty for a spin. "Ironically, the one in the movie was a replica," explains Koker. "They used a fiberglass-bodied car on a late model Mustang chassis with a small block Ford 302 motor. To use a real '61 Spyder would've been insane."

Restoration Challenge:

Finding original parts would be almost impossible. But if you have deep pockets, you could go to Italy and have Ferrari re-manufacture whatever you need.

Price:

In 2008, a '61 once owned by the late James Coburn sold for \$10.9 million. The actual car from the film sold for a mere fraction of that in 2010, fetching \$122,000 in a Bonhams auction, practically double the London auction house's estimate of \$45 to 65k.



1969 Dodge Charger, Dukes of Hazzard

The General Lee didn't just give Boss Hogg's flunkies the slip, Chrysler's aerodynamic wild child was designed to lap the competition. Of course, no car could land those ridiculous frame-buckling jumps and drive away unscathed. Nearly 300 Chargers were wrecked over the run of the television series from 1979-1985. "These were really awesome cars with huge engines stuffed into them. You could get a 440 with a six pack (six carburetors), or you could get a hemi. The car was a drag race car right off the showroom floor," says Koker.

Restoration Challenge:

While the parts are out there for old Mopars, they didn't produce as many as other muscle cars from the same period, so they're much more expensive.

Price:

You can build one for \$30 to 40k.



1958 Plymouth Fury, Christine

The demonic two-door hardtop was conceived by Chrysler, but made infamous by horror masters Stephen King and John Carpenter, first in print and subsequently on the big screen. The 1983 film turned this proto-muscle car into an icon. "I love that car because it was an oddball, it was not a car that people sought out to collect and restore. I thought it was really cool that that car was selected to be used and that the version in the movie was restored to 100 per cent original condition," says Koker.

Restoration Challenge:

To take it back to the nuts and bolts original, all your parts have to be the real deal. "Everything you do to the interior has to be accurate, the way you detail the engine compartment has to be accurate, and all those things cost extra money," adds Koker.

Price:

You could build one for \$50 to 60k.

Q & A. Danny The Count Koker weighs in

When Rick and the gang at *Pawn Stars* need advice on anything with wheels and an engine, they call Danny The Count Koker of Las Vegas' Count Kustoms. On *Counting Cars*, his spinoff series on History, Koker trolls the streets of Nevada for sweet rides to fix up and then flip, but if he grows too attached they find their way into his expansive personal collection.



Danny Koker
HANDOUT

You have any tips for first time restorers looking for a project?

Don't get in over your head and pick something that you personally love because you're going to get frustrated and want to throw in the towel somewhere along the line. That's why you gotta pick something that you connect with so you'll stick with the project and see it through to the end. If it's a first time project, pick something simple. Go with an old Mustang, an old Camaro, a '55 Chevy, or something like that where the parts are available and it is not rocket science as far as building it and putting it together.

You knock on doors, stop cars at lights and scout parking lots when you're cruising for cars. Do you think you get better deals looking for cars that don't have for sale signs on them yet?

I believe so. That is my philosophy. It's something that I've been doing for years. In my opinion, if a car has a for sale sign on it, you're already too late. Whoever is selling it has already thought about it, done their research and they know what they want for it. It's probably going to be a little bit tougher to work a deal with somebody like that.

What's your success rate using your bold tactics?

Lots of times when we knock on a door or pull somebody over, or find something in a parking lot, sure I get, "No". It's rare to find somebody to say, "OK, I'll sell you my car." I get the no all the time. But on the rare occasion, you get someone in the right frame of mind and mood. They really haven't given it too much thought and maybe they need a little money right now, and you might be able to work a better deal.

MIKE DOJC

5
DRIVE

Hot cars and hot trends for 2013

Sexy ride! A rundown of the year's most exciting vehicles and their mouth-watering features



AUTO
PILOT

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drive@metronews.ca

It's that time again when we must take stock of last year and look forward to the next. Or climb into a big, woolen sock and hibernate until May. Someone poked me with a stick, so I'm up-and-Adam and ready to pursue the former option.

2012 was a year when the manufacturers really focused on giving us increased fuel economy in every vehicle category, and not just the smaller ones.

This is a trend we'll certainly see continue in 2013 and beyond. Exhibit A: The all-new and completely redesigned Corvette debuting at this month's Detroit auto show. It promises to go from zero to 60 m.p.h. in

under four seconds and deliver 26 m.p.g. (9 L/100 km) fuel efficiency on the highway.

The 'Vette is also part of another trend — that high-end performance and luxury vehicles aren't going anywhere. They seem indifferent to socio-economic times that might suggest buyers lean toward more austere and/or greener choices. Luxury brands in Canada actually did better (proportionally) in the 2012 sales year than many mainstream brands.

BMW has an interesting strategy rolling out in 2013 to cope with this duality in the marketplace. It will introduce the "i" sub-brand, to distinguish the automaker's most out-there green vehicles. The i3, a five-door EV, will launch at the end of 2013, while the i8 hybrid sports car will follow in early 2014.

All luxury brands helped themselves recently by dipping into smaller and less-expensive segments. Last year, we saw Buick Encore and BMW X1 work this angle, and next year Audi Q3 will do its thing in this compact-luxury segment. Get ready to see more of these compact, entry-level luxury crossovers.

But the one luxury-perform-

Vroom

The one luxury-performance car I'm most looking forward to next year is the 2013 Jaguar F-Type, the first full-on two-seat sports car from Jaguar in more than 50 years

Mike Goetz

ance car I'm most looking forward to next year is the 2013 Jaguar F-Type, the first full-on two-seat sports car from Jaguar in more than 50 years.

Small is getting more fun, with the recent arrivals of such over-achievers as Ford Focus ST, Fiat 500 Abarth and Mini Roadster. Fun will go even smaller, when the 2014 Ford Fiesta ST arrives, with its near-200 hp EcoBoost engine and 6-speed manual shifter.

This influx of hot, small and bothered vehicles is also part of another, larger trend — North American buyers are becoming more sympathetic with our European counterparts. As such, we're seeing less differentiation between product offerings between the markets and that's



Camouflaged Corvette debuting at the Detroit auto show. HANDBOUT

a good thing. Two interesting Euro-born vehicles to watch for next year are the four-door Fiat 500L and Ford's new minivan, the Transit Connect.

Of course we'll see more full-on EVs come on stream in 2013, such as Chevrolet Spark EV, smart ForTwo Electric, Honda Fit EV, and the fore-mentioned BMW i3. Will they help make EV mainstream? Probably not in 2013, but if they keep coming and do their stuff, prime

time can't be too far away.

And how about mainstream diesel? The all-new 2014 Mazda6 is available with a 2.2-litre diesel engine. As the first (non-VW) mainstream sedan with a diesel, it will be interesting to watch how it will be embraced in 2013.

Finally, we must also pay attention to the continuing "smart phoning" of vehicles. Just this week, Hyundai announced it was working on

a smart phone app utilizing NFC technology that would allow you to do a host of things to your vehicle, not the least of which would be unlocking it and starting it. Yes, starting your car with a phone and not a key. Which begs the question, at what point is the smartphone an extension of the car, or the car an extension of the smartphone? I'll leave you now to discuss that, 'cause I'm crawling back into my comfy sock.

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries

March 21 - April 20

You have been a bit too generous for your own good late and, not surprisingly, someone has taken advantage of the situation. Now you must take back what was taken from you, plus a little extra for your trouble.

♉ Taurus

April 21 - May 21

If there is something new you would like to do, something extravagant and exciting, you must stop dreaming about it and get on with it. The Sun in Capricorn urges you to get busy right now — later is too late.

♊ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

What happens over the next two or three days will bring the kind of changes that even you feel happy about. You should have realized by now that not all change is bad. Some change is exciting and even inspiring.

♋ Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You are embarking on one of the best times for one-to-one relationships, both personal and professional. Others will go out of their way to help you over the next 24 hours. Go out of your way to enjoy it.

♌ Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Focus on quality work today. You may be tempted to take on more duties and responsibilities but that will inevitably lead to a loss of value. The fewer things you do, the better you will do them.

♍ Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

This may be a time of great activity but don't overdo it. Set your sights high today but don't aim for too many things all at the same time. No matter how fit you feel you will burn yourself out.

♎ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You will have to make decisions for other people today. It may worry you that their welfare is in your hands but fate has put you in this position for a reason, so be confident you will make a success of it.

♏ Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You will face a number of challenges over the next few days and you cannot run away from them. That's good. Your life is in a bit of a rut at the moment and you need something to get you out of it.

♐ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

If someone asks you to take on more work today you must be strong-minded enough to say no. Whatever you might think you owe other people, you owe more to yourself — and nothing matters more than your health.

♑ Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

There is nothing you cannot achieve if you want it enough. Rarely have the omens been this good, so stop worrying about what the neighbors might think and start living the kind of life you dream of.

♒ Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You may be tempted to start something new today but the planets indicate it would be wiser, and easier, to focus your energies on finishing what you have already started. Attitude is everything. Think of it as fun.

♓ Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

The planets warn you have only a limited grasp of what is going on at the moment and what others tell you today is needed to complete the picture. Thank them for pointing out what you have missed.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword

Across

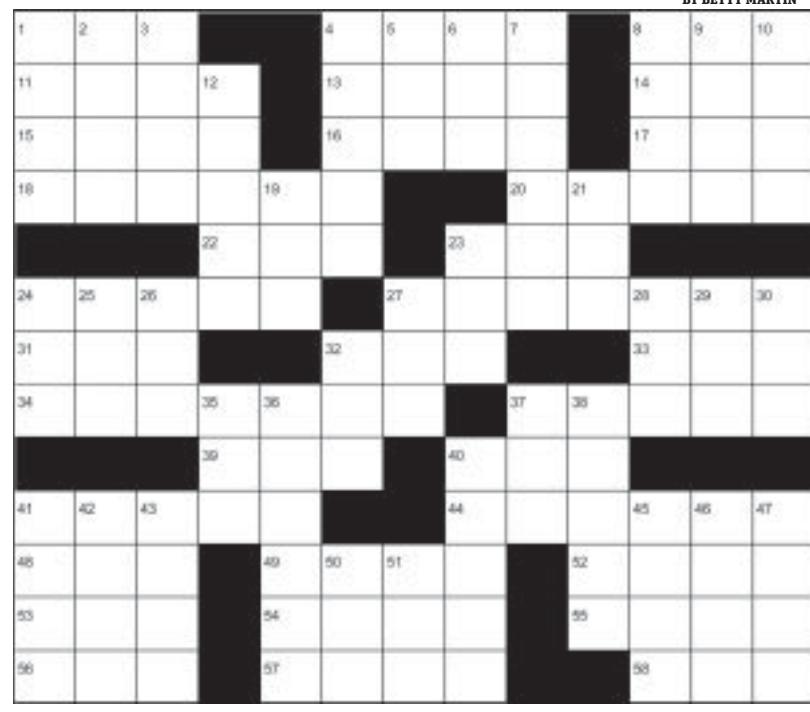
- Light-feather link (2 words)
- College major
- Captain's journal
- Lose one's cool
- Operatic solo
- "Cold Mountain" heroine
- The Munsters' bat
- Auction word
- Term of respect
- Defense mechanism
- Not now
- Happy Days hangout
- Chest muscle, for short
- Soup server
- Frontier figure
- Disney deer
- standstill (2 words)
- Wide shoe width
- Be lenient with
- Aroma
- Lay eyes on
- Exclude
- Book contents
- Newspaper employee
- Slippery fish
- Variety
- Scotch partner
- Before, of yore
- Sign on a door
- Nudge
- Fish eggs
- Snoopy
- Hospital units (abbr.)

Down

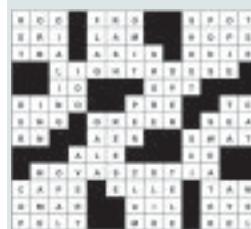
- Extremely dry
- Stuffing herb
- Before long
- Sends a letter
- Gallery display
- Even score
- Small village
- Bringing up the rear
- Cartoon dog
- Actress Teri of "Tootsie"
- Courtroom drama
- Pub offering
- Pretend
- Soup vegetable
- Flower garland
- Abby's twin sister
- Family man
- Sault — Marie
- Jeans brand

- Poetic time of day
- Soak as flax
- Epoch
- Benefit
- Subside
- Down in the dumps
- Crunchy
- Veronica's friend
- Look closely
- Flying (prefix)
- High spirits

- Ripped
- Unpleasant smell
- X-ray dosages
- Losing tic-tac-toe row
- Sue Grafton novel: -- for Ricochet (letter and word)



Dec. 21's Crossword



What's online

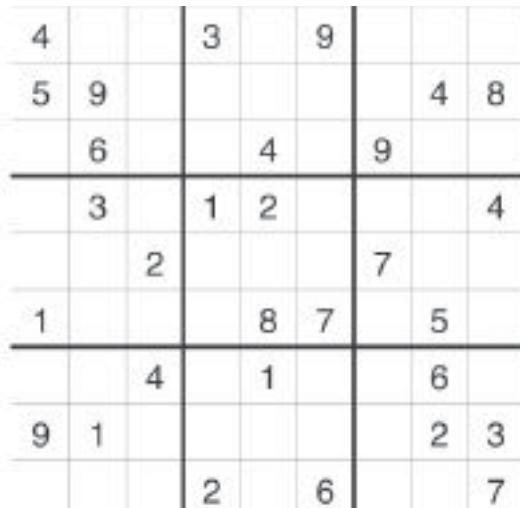
See today's answers
metronews.ca/
answers.



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Dec. 21's Sudoku



Weather

TODAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY



MAX: -11°
MIN: -12°



MAX: -9°
MIN: -12°



MAX: -9°
MIN: -14°



JENNA KHAN
WEATHER SPECIALIST

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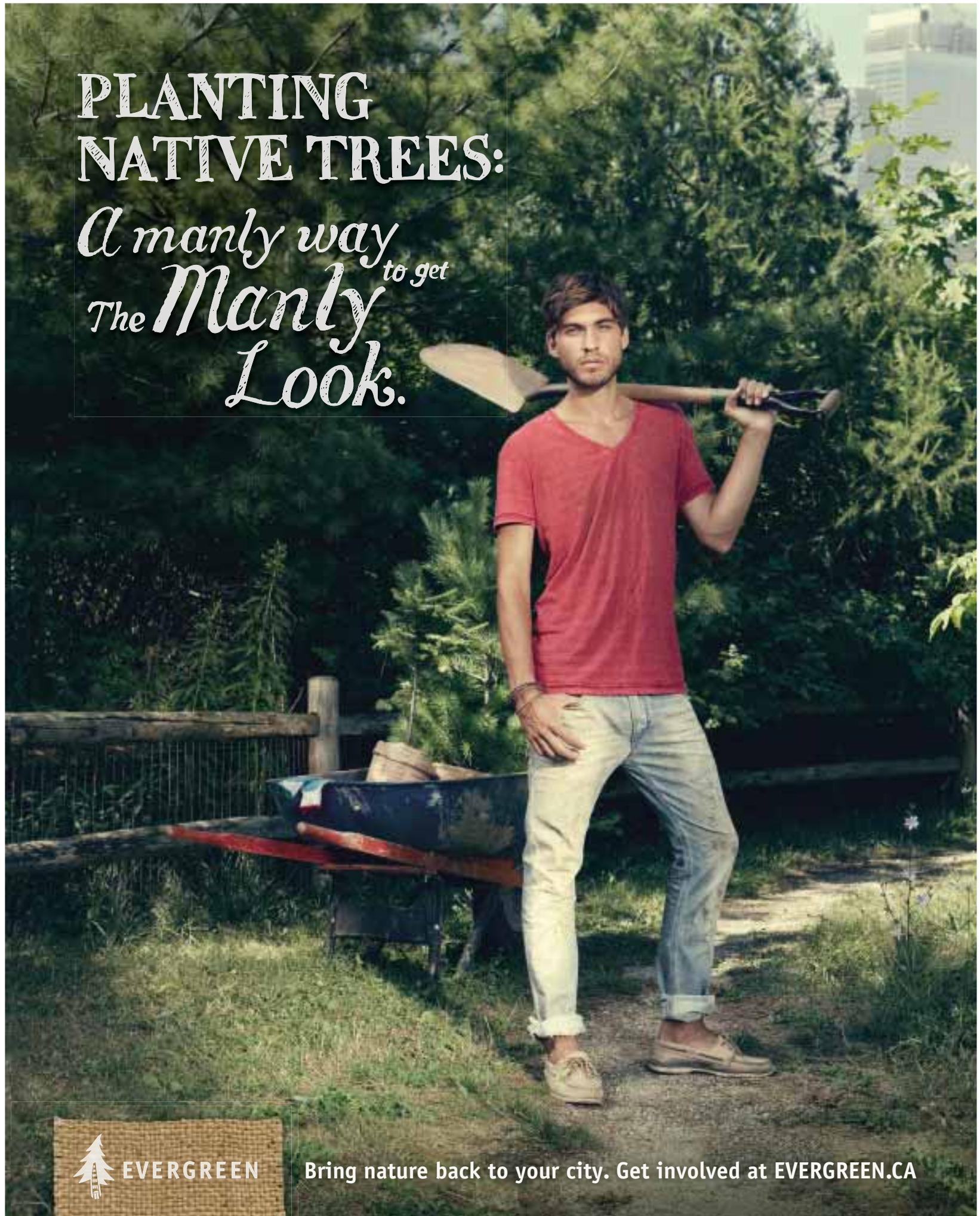
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